

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 18-25 and 27-28 have been amended. Claims 1-18 have been previously cancelled. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 18-28 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

Claim 23 is objected to. Claim 23 has been amended, which overcomes the objection. Applicants respectfully request the objection be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 18-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Herbst, II, U.S. Patent No. 5,457,342 (“Herbst”).

Applicants respectfully submit that Herbst discloses an “integrated circuit cooling apparatus including a *heat-conductive base plate* to be placed against an integrated circuit, a *Peltier Effect cooling module* having a cooling side connected to a top surface of the heat-conductive base plate, a heat radiator assembly connected to a heating side of the Peltier Effect cooling module and a *fan assembly* juxtaposed next to a heat-radiating portion of the heat radiator assembly.” (emphasis added).

Richman, U.S. Patent No. 4,685,081 (“Richman”) (which is incorporated by reference from Herbst) discloses “[a]n electronic device, such as a bubble memory [device], which has a narrow temperature band of operation.” (Abstract). Richman further discloses “reversing the direction of current flowing through [a] Peltier circuit . . .

used to heat or chill the bubble memory device.” (col. 4, lines 6-10).

In contrast, claim 18, as amended, in pertinent part, recites “the TIM receiving a redirected heat in the heat sink upon changing of the polarity to melt the TIM up to an acceptable melt level” (emphasis added). Herbst nor Richman teach or reasonably suggest such a feature. Herbst discloses an integrated circuit cooling apparatus including a *heat-conductive base plate*; however, Herbst fails to teach or reasonably suggest melting a TIM up to an acceptable melt level, as in claim 1. Richman discloses reversing the direction of current flowing through a circuit; nonetheless, Richman fails to teach or reasonably suggest melting a TIM up to an acceptable melt level, as in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 18 and its dependent claims.

Claim 23 includes limitations similar to those of claim 18. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 23 and its dependent claims.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is hereby earnestly requested.

Invitation for a Telephone Interview

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

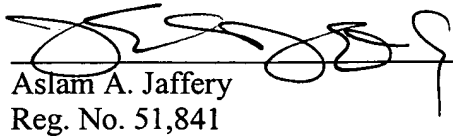
Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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